



Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research
Visiting Scholars Program

Program Guide 2012



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About the Visiting Scholars Program

The Visiting Scholars Program (VSP) is a unique opportunity for scientists to access the intellectual capital and state-of-the-art facilities of the only federal national laboratory in the United States devoted exclusively to biomedical research, the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research (formerly NCI-Frederick).

Consistent with our training mission, we invite early-career or established investigators, either within or outside the cancer research community. The duration and purpose of the visit to the Frederick National Laboratory can vary, but it is intended to facilitate collaboration or enhance career development. The engagement at Frederick may be part of a research effort to address persistent barriers that have long impeded progress against cancer and AIDS. Or the purpose could be tied to addressing new challenges, such as those posed by the [NCI Director's Provocative Questions](#).

Visiting Scholars will be integrated with teams of scientists at the Frederick National Laboratory who

- support basic studies in the biological mechanisms of cancer and AIDS;
- conduct translational research leading to new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches; and
- advance preclinical studies leading to first-in-human clinical trials.

We encourage scientists to explore our [Visiting Scholar Opportunities](#) and submit an [Expression of Interest Form](#).

There are other NCI-sponsored visitor programs outside the Frederick National Laboratory VSP. For further information go to:

- [Center for Cancer Research](#)
- [Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics](#)

Eligibility

Expressions of Interest for the posted 2012 [Visiting Scholar Opportunities](#) will be accepted from investigators in the public, private, and academic research communities, and at any career stage after the doctoral level.

It is expected that applicants for a Visiting Scholar appointment will be employed on a permanent basis by a "home institution," or are postdoctoral fellows, and are not seeking long-term employment through the Visiting Scholars Program (VSP). Candidates are expected to have ongoing research programs that might benefit from a residency at the Frederick National Laboratory. Applicants with no permanent home institution (e.g., postdoctoral fellows) should specify their salary needs in the Expression of Interest, to be considered for funding.

Funding

The Frederick National Laboratory VSP expects to sponsor 1–3 Visiting Scholars in 2012–2013.

The candidate Visiting Scholar will be asked to describe in his/her proposal a cost estimate associated with the residency in Frederick, Maryland. Visiting Scholars may be reimbursed for actual expenses (up to a maximum of \$100,000) in the following categories:

- Travel – one round trip between Frederick National Laboratory and home institution
- Lodging – government per diem rates for Frederick, Maryland
- Meals and incidentals – government per diem rates for Frederick, Maryland
- Ground transportation
- Materials and supplies

Visiting Scholar Opportunities (VSO)

Laboratory-Proposed Opportunities

The following four 2012 Visiting Scholar Opportunities (VSO) address important cancer research challenges. [Expressions of Interest](#) for these opportunities are being accepted until 5:00 PM, EST, May 11, 2012.

VSO #1: Affinity Reagents

Uncover novel approaches to the development of affinity reagents in cases where traditional methods have failed. [View details](#). (You will need Adobe Reader to open this file; if needed, click here to [download Adobe Reader](#).)

VSO #2: Proteomics

Determine the feasibility of developing a multiplexed assay that is easily accessible to physicians and uses mass spectrometry to quantitatively measure approximately 100 cancer-associated proteins. [View details](#). (You will need Adobe Reader to open this file; if needed, click here to [download Adobe Reader](#).)

VSO #3: Advanced Pre-Clinical Research

Address challenges of using genetically engineered mouse models (GEMMs). [View details](#). (You will need Adobe Reader to open this file; if needed, click here to [download Adobe Reader](#).)

VSO #4: Virus Genomics

Advance our understanding of the genomics of cancer-causing viruses using next-generation sequencing. [View details](#). (You will need Adobe Reader to open this file; if needed, click here to [download Adobe Reader](#).)

Applicant-Proposed Opportunity

If you have identified a reason for visiting the Frederick National Laboratory, and none of the four specific VSOs closely align with your research focus, you may submit an Applicant-Proposed Expression of Interest. The submission should align with the Frederick National Laboratory's mission, research programs, and capabilities. For the 2012 VSP, we are focusing on:

- [AIDS and Cancer Virus Program](#)
- [Advanced Technology Program](#)
- [Laboratory Animal Sciences Program](#)
- [Information Systems Program](#)

Applicant-Proposed Visiting Scholar Expressions of Interest may be submitted at any time, as they are not subject to deadlines for the 2012 program.

Process for Submitting an Expression of Interest

To inform us of your interest in becoming a Visiting Scholar at the Frederick National Laboratory please:

- download the Visiting Scholars Program Expression of Interest Form;
- complete the form and save the file using the following convention: Lastname_2012;
- e-mail your completed form as an attachment to: FrederickVisitingScholar@NIH.gov

The submission deadline is 5:00 PM, EST, May 11, 2012, for responses to [Laboratory-Proposed Opportunities](#). [Applicant-Proposed Opportunities](#) can be submitted at any time. You will be contacted with further instructions if we would like you to submit a full proposal.

If you need assistance with downloading the application or utilizing the form, contact the Frederick National Laboratory Webmaster at ncifwebmaster@nih.gov. For questions about the VSP contact the VSP Program Manager at FrederickVisitingScholar@NIH.gov.

Selection of Visiting Scholars

The Expression of Interest will provide us with the applicant's

- personal and professional information;
- Visiting Scholar Opportunity of interest;
- targeted start and end dates;
- proposed purpose of the visit in the context of the applicant's overall research activities;
- proposed approach to addressing the cancer research challenges identified in the specific Visiting Scholar Opportunity; and
- anticipated contribution to the Frederick National Laboratory.

The VSP Evaluation Team will evaluate Expressions of Interest and rank them according to the following considerations:

Technical:

- Originality of approach
- Compatibility with research priorities of the host laboratory
- Potential impact of anticipated contribution (described in proposal)

Operational:

- Availability of Frederick resources (e.g., staff, facilities, and funding, if requested) during the time of proposed residency

Applicants with the highest-ranked Expressions of Interest will be invited to submit full proposals. Selection of Visiting Scholars will be made from among the highest-ranked full proposals.

Schedule of Key Events

April 2 through May 11, 2012	Submit Expression of Interest
May 23, 2012	VSP invites full proposals
June 22, 2012	Full proposals due to VSP
July 13, 2012	VSP invites Visiting Scholars selected for 2012 program
July 20, 2012	Visiting Scholars accept appointments and plan visits

This schedule allows a Visiting Scholar to start planning for the visit by mid-July. Residency may begin as early as September 2012.

Contact Us

For questions about the Visiting Scholars Program (VSP) please contact:

Dr. Debonny L. Shoaf, Program Manager

FrederickVisitingScholar@NIH.gov

For assistance with downloading documents or other problem with the web pages, please contact ncifwebmaster@nih.gov

To learn more about the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research (formerly NCI-Frederick), go to <http://ncifrederick.cancer.gov>

To learn more about the National Cancer Institute, go to <http://cancer.gov>